



January 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes of the Bishop Amateur Radio Club

BARC's officers for 2020 are:

Paul Dostie	(KK6BAF)	- President
Bill Chezum	(W6WWY)	- Vice President
Terry Fenske	(K6UN)	- Treasurer
Noam Shendar	(W6RT)	- Secretary

Meeting called to order by President Paul Dostie (KK6BAF) at 19:04. The meeting was held at the Salvation Army in Bishop, CA.

Number in attendance: 10. They were, in alphabetical call sign order: AD6NR John, K6UN Terry, KA6HII Michael, KD6TLE Gordon, KK6BAF Paul, NW6C Jon, W6RT Noam, W6SRV Wayne, W6WWY Bill, and Everett (unlicensed).

Minutes

Financial Report:

Terry (K6UN) indicated that we brought in \$20 (in partial dues) and paid out \$579.90 for Ubiquiti radio links, antennas and radomes as approved last year. In addition, two annual dues payments were received via mail and one at the meeting - all of which will be reflected in next month's financial report.

Meeting Location:

Terry (K6UN) reported that this topic has been rendered moot by lack of membership interest, after soliciting member comments for a number of months. Should the need arise to relocate, use of space at Bev's (N6BEV) church remains an option. Terry added that the Salvation Army completed the purchase of a new building and will relocate there. We assume we would be able to make use of the new location for club meetings.

Baofeng Radios:

John (AD6NR) distributed copies of a QST article on compliance testing of Baofeng radios (QST, January 2020, pp. 60-62). ARRL's testing found that 78% of the Baofeng radios tested in 2019 have spurious emissions which are noncompliant, and only 9% are compliant (the remaining units are borderline). Hams, as a condition of their licenses, are personally responsible for the compliance of all of their equipment and radio emissions. To help with this, John has volunteered to test anyone's Baofeng radio to see if it is compliant or not.

Repeater Status Update:

John (AD6NR) reported that the Silver Peak camera (which can usually be seen at n6ov.com/Silver.html) went offline on 1/8. The reason is a very low data rate on the downlink transmission. Debug is not possible because the site is at high elevation and inaccessible due to snow.

There was a discussion around linking the Owens Valley repeaters with Fish Lake Valley, an idea that Bill (W6WWY) said was proposed by Jim (N7IU). Currently we are unaware of a site in Fish Lake Valley that we can use and which has a good path to Silver Peak.

Emergency Communications Drill:

Paul (KK6BAF) and John (AD6NR) are planning to put together an emergency communications drill, at a date that is yet to be determined. The drill would include the use of both voice and data (Winlink). **Interested in learning how to use Winlink to send email via radio?** Contact Noam (W6RT) or John (AD6NR).

Field Day 2020:

Paul (KK6BAF) reminded us that the event will take place on June 27-28, with setup on the 26th. He reserved the campsite (Camp Noreen at Cedar Flat, in the White Mountains east of Big Pine) through the 29th so that we won't have to rush out on Sunday morning. The site has plenty of room for travel trailers.

Paul will organize us into crews (antenna crew, log crew, kitchen crew, etc.). Headphones are required for all operators given the close proximity. He would like to set up shifts so that we can operate during the full 24 hours of the event. Among the antennas will be the club's 3-band beam. The stations will be

organized by John (AD6NR) And Terry (K6UN). Noam (W6RT) is responsible for reviewing the 2020 rules to ensure compliance and point maximization.

50/50 Raffle:

Bill (W6WWY) volunteered to take over this tradition from Rich (KF6YLW, SK).

Show & Tell:

Paul (KK6BAF) would like us to establish a new tradition this year – show and tell. He kicked this off by bringing a lightweight, 3500-lumen LED work light, which has controls for both dimming and color adjustment.

Nevada ARES:

John (AD6NR) attended the Nevada ARES meeting in Tonopah. The meeting included emergency coordinators, section communications managers, and more. Some of the problems identified at the meeting were lack of personnel and training, especially ARRL and FEMA ICS classes such as EC-001 and ICS-100/200/700/800. Without these, there is no common system or method for working together during an emergency.

Items from the Floor:

Paul (KK6BAF) reported that the Tri-County Fairgrounds in Bishop are setting up an emergency center, with a 30kW propane generator (emergency generator purchases were also approved for the Independence Courthouse and Lone Pine). The Fairgrounds took advantage of the Bishop Kmart closure sale to acquire restaurant furniture, fixtures and appliances from Little Caesars.

Terry (K6UN) relayed a request from David Tate for volunteers for the Boy Scout Jamboree near the Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery on March 28-29. Help is needed with communications among the various ranges and to a site that has cellular coverage, if there is a need to call 911.

Gordon (KD6TLE) mentioned that during a recent 2m SSB net (Saturdays at 19:00 Pacific on 144.210 USB) a participant joined from Lake Havasu City, AZ, a distance of about 265 miles! On a related topic, it was suggested that we may want to try 2m SSB at Field Day.

Meeting adjourned at 20:46.

Many thanks to Gordon Baldwin (KD6TLE) for taking and transcribing the above notes - and for being so gracious every time I ask him for his help.

Noam Shendar (W6RT)

Secretary

Bishop Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (BARC)